

## Message Text

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11

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /026 W

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R 240908Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8225

INFO AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

C O N F I D E N T I A L HELSINKI 0152

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAGR, FI

SUBJ: FINNISH REQUIREMENTS FOR US GRAIN

REF: (A) STATE 010030 (B) HELSINKI 0018 (C) HELSINKI 2320

(D) HELSINKI 2230 (E) STATE 233041 (F) HELSINKI A-211

1. GOF CURRENTLY ESTIMATES REQUIREMENT FOR IMPORTED CORN AT 300,000 METRIC TONS IN CURRENT CROP YEAR (TO SEP 30, 1975) (REFS C AND D). UNUSUALLY HIGH VOLUME OF IMPORTS NECESSITATED BY SERIOUS CROP DEFICIENCIES, PARTICULARLY IN HAY. CROP STATISTICS CONTAINED REF F. SWEDEN AND USSR COULD OR WOULD NOT SELL OATS AND/OR BARLEY TO FINLAND (REF C). US APPEARS TO BE SOLE SOURCE OF FEED-GRAINS AVAILABLE TO FINLAND.

2. GOF HAS PUBLICLY ANNOUNCED, AND CONFIRMED TO EMBASSY, THAT GRAIN BOARD HAS A CONTRACT WITH EUROPEAN AGENT TO PURCHASE 200,000 METRIC TONS OF CORN, SOME OF WHICH HAS ALREADY BEEN DELIVERED. (PRESUMABLY AGENT HAS GUARANTEED TOTAL DELIVERY.) PRESS REPORTS STATED THAT CORN PURCHASED SO FAR WAS FROM US. THIS FIGURE IS CONSISTENT WITH REFTEL (E), BUT NOT REFTEL (A). THE UP TO 100,000 ADDITIONAL TONS WHICH GRAIN BOARD MAY BUY WOULD BE OBTAINED THROUGH EUROPEAN AGENTS AT ROTTERDAM IN ACCORDANCE PAST PRACTICE.

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3. EMBASSY HAS VERIFIED THAT FOREIGN MINISTRY DOES NOT SHARE MISCONCEPTION OF MTK DIRECTOR THAT USDA HAD "RESERVED" SPECIFIC QUANTITY OF CORN FOR FINLAND (REFTEL B). MFA WOULD APPRECIATE ANY INDICATIONS OF SUPPLY TRENDS, HOWEVER. EMBASSY REQUESTS PROMPT ADVICE IF FOR ANY REASON US LIKELY BLOCK ADDITIONAL SHIPMENTS CORN TO FINLAND.

4. EMBASSY'S IMMEDIATE INTEREST IS TO AFFORD GOF AS MUCH NOTICE AS POSSIBLE OF SUPPLY SITUATION. HOWEVER, WE BELIEVE LIKELY IMPACT ON FINNISH SOCIETY AND GOVERNMENT OF DENIAL OF ACCESS TO US FEED GRAIN VERY UNDESIRABLE, GIVEN DIFFERENCES IN DELICATELY-BALANCED COALITION GOVERNMENT, ESPECIALLY BETWEEN CENTER PARTY AND SOCIAL DEMOCRATS, OVER COMPETING CLAIMS OF FARMERS AND INDUSTRIAL WORKERS. WE ARE PLEASED THAT US APPEARS TO HAVE MET FINNISH NEEDS TO DATE AND HOPE REMAINING NEEDED AMOUNTS WILL BE APPROVED.  
KREHBIEL

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** AGRICULTURAL PRODUCT SALES, GRAINS, IMPORT QUOTAS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 24 JAN 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
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**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
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